Government to set up similar circuit bench of Allahabad High Court in Uttar Pradesh; and

(d) if so, by when a circuit bench is expected to be set up and the location thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) to (d) Setting up of a Bench of a High Court is considered on receipt of a complete proposal from the State Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court concerned. As a complete proposal has been received from the Government of West Bengal, it is proposed to set up a Circuit Bench of the Calcutta High Court at Jalpaiguri. However, no such complete proposal has been received for setting up of a Bench of the Allahabad High Court.

**Compliance of orders of Supreme Court**

†628. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether instructions for compliance with the order of the Supreme Court that the statement of the sufferer in a rape case is sufficient have been issued to all courts for compliance; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) and (b) No directions/guidelines with regard to admissibility of statement of the prosecutrix in the rape case as provided in the Indian Evidence Act, have been issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs to the courts in the country. However, it is for the respective High Courts to issue directions/guidelines to the courts functioning under them.

**Pending cases in Delhi courts**

629. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of criminal and civil cases are pending in the lower courts of Delhi;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details of such cases are pending for the last three years as on the 1st April, 2006;

(c) whether Government propose to appoint more judicial officers in the capital for the expeditious disposal of the pending cases; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when such officers are likely to be appointed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) and (b) The details of civil and criminal cases pending in lower courts of Delhi for last 3 years as on 1st April, 2006 are as under:—

| Sl. No. | Nature of cases | Pendency as on 1.4.04 | 1.4.05 | 1.4.06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Criminal cases | 326114 | 400988 | 464097 |
| 2. | Civil cases | 141565 | 131368 | 131972 |

(c) and (d) Filling up of vacancies of judicial officers for the lower courts is a matter that concerns State Governments. In the case of Union Territory of Delhi, the Central Government has declared all the powers of creation of posts from Group A to Group D to the Government of Delhi.

**Legal status of euthanasia**

†630. SHRI DATTAMEGHE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to give legal status to euthanasia;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have received any applications for euthanasia; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.